THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) SAIL's revised voluntary retirement scheme was introduced with effect from 1-10-1986. It provides for payment of a certain percentage of future earnings till superannuation.

(b) About 800 employees have taken voluntary retirement upto 31-1-1987.

(c) SAIL's approach is to improve the utilisation of existing manpower through improved work practices and by retraining and redeployment, wherever possible.

Sukhadia University as State Agricultural University

*59. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on December 27, 1986 he had stated that the Sukhadia University in Rajasthan ought to be made a State Agricultural University, so that it could receive full financial support from ICAR; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir. While inaugurating the Fourth Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, it was suggested that in order to receive full financial support from the ICAR the University be converted to a State Agriculture University at the earliest.

(b) The State Agricultural University is to be established by the Government of Rajasthan through an Act of the State Legislature. The State Government is already seized of the matter.

Irrigation Schemes in Orissa

*60. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the irrigation schemes submitted by the Government of Orissa for clearance by the Central Government during the past two years; and

(b) what is the present position of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) During the last two years, two major and three medium irrigation schemes have been submitted by Government of Orissa. The compliance of the State Government on the observations of the Central Water Commission with regard to the major schemes (Manibhadra Dam Project and Canalisation of Anandpur Barrage) is awaited. The replies received for the two medium schemes (Upper Lanth and Katra) are under examination. The other medium scheme (Jeera) received in December 1986 is under examination.

Development of Waste Land

345. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CSIR Director-General has stated, as reported in 'Indian Express', dated January 19, 1987 that technologies developed by CSIR Laboratories, have reclaimed hundreds of hectares of wastelands in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that massive afforestation programmes under social forestry and farm-forestry schemes have been in operation in many States for some years; and

(d) if so, the State-wise expenditure incurred thereon and loans given for them by financial institutions and other agencies and the results achieved so far as percentage of the waste-land in each State and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.